

Station to Station

GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome

Thank you for choosing to join us on an adventure of a lifetime through the remote and spectacular high country of southern New Zealand.

Please read the following information carefully.

What to wear:

- Comfortable trousers for riding in. (jodhpurs, riding jeans, trackpants, etc). Men may like to wear lycra cycle shorts under their pants.
- Cotton Socks
- Warm woollen socks
- Riding or Tramping/hiking boots with a heel and good ankle support
- ½ chaps
- Hat with wide brim
- Comfortable clothes for the evening.

What to bring:

- A warm change of clothes; polyprop / thermal underwear is a good idea on all treks.
- **Lunch for the first day**
- personal toiletries, face cloth and towel.
- insect repellent
- gloves
- swimsuit
- Sunglasses
- sunblock and sunglasses
- Drink bottle
- Hip flask
- camera and plenty of spare film
- small torch and batteries

Maximum baggage weight allowed is 12kg

What we provide:

- Horse, tack & guide
- Meals and accommodations (double or twin share)
- Oilskin riding coat
- Saddle Bags

General Notes

- On our rides we prefer to treat you as our guests rather than tourists.
- The land we will be riding over is mainly private land where we travel as a privilege rather than as of right.
- As guests we have responsibilities to our hosts along the way, to the environment and to each other to help ensure that your adventure is all that you want it to be.

- Getting involved is one of the key elements of these rides and for most people adds much to their experience.
- You will be responsible for the grooming and saddling of your own horse each day.
- Your guides will instruct and assist you in this and check your horse before you set out each day.

For safety and courtesy please observe the following:

- Walk and lead your horse out of camp in the morning.
- **Stay at the pace set by the trek leader. Pace is mainly walk; we will often trot or canter but solely at the discretion of the trek leader, based on terrain, weather conditions, rider experience level, presence of livestock, etc**
- Let your horse drink when he wants to
- Always wear footwear you would be comfortable walking a long distance in
- Listen to your guide's instructions and respect them
- Use environmentally friendly soaps & shampoos
- Use wash bowls provided and empty onto ground away from rivers and lakes.
- Respect the homes of our hosts along the way and remove your shoes when entering.
- Please do not bring cellphones as there is no cell phone coverage in the area
- Please ask for clarification if you do not understand any instruction from your guides
- Should you need to adjust your girth while mounted please ask a guide to assist.
- Do not follow too closely to the horse in front.
- Ride alongside by all means but keep at least a horse length between you and any horse in front.
- Do not ride off before the last rider is mounted or the last horse has drunk at a water stop
- Do not hold your horse back so you can trot / canter up to the rest of the group
- Do not drop rubbish along the way; Our motto is "If you take it in, you take it out"
- Do not smoke on your horse. If you must smoke at other times please consider your fellow travellers.
- Cigarette butts must be handed to the guide as there is always a fire risk.
- Do not leave a campsite without informing a guide of your intentions
- Ask your guides about anything you are unsure of or require help with.

“The Station to Station” Trek (3 days - 2 nights)

A more exclusive ride from farm to farm with hospitality provided by local station owners. Limited to a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 riders. Dates by arrangement.

ITINERARY

Day 1: 9.30am Arrive at our base at The Peaks. *(Please do not arrive earlier so as to allow us to prepare for the trek)*

After saddling up we ride out from our base at The Peaks, up through the pretty Waitohi River. We cross into the Trussochs station and then follow the Waitohi gorge. We pass over some high hill country with lovely views before arriving at the Seven Hills homestead.

Here we enjoy dinner with the family at the homestead and spend our first night there or in tents.

Approx 5 hrs riding.

Day 2: We start the day's ride up through the hills of Mt Mason station, crossing the Waitohi River and riding onto the magnificent Mt Noble station. We then wind our way up and over the Windy Ridge, with spectacular views of the mountains in all directions. Then it is on to the Seven Hills woolshed where we leave our horses and meet the vehicle that will carry you to the Seven Hills Homestead for the night.

Approx. 5 hrs riding.

Day 3: After breakfast we travel by vehicle back to the horses at the Seven Hills woolshed. We ride along the banks of the Hurunui River, gentle after its wild ride through Maori Gully. Riding on we pass the impressive Hooligan Range with Mt. Mizar, Ben Cliberick, Phyllis Fell and Mount Catherine on the opposite side of the river. We lunch below Mt. Self beside the Hurunui, after which we head across country again, up and over the Kanuku Saddle (approx.770metres.) with its panoramic views of the Amuri Basin. We return to base by approx. 4.30pm

Approx. 5 ½ hours riding.

N.B. As is the tradition in the New Zealand high country we do walk and lead our horses down steep hills so it is essential that you wear good trekking / hiking type boots and have a reasonable standard of fitness.

Packhorses are not used on this ride; your gear will be transported to your accommodation by vehicle.

Due to the limited accommodation provided by the station owners, singles booking may be required to share a bedroom.

“The Station to Station” Trek (5 days - 4 nights)

A more exclusive ride from farm to farm with hosting by local station owners. Limited to a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 riders. Dates by arrangement.

ITINERARY

Day 1: 9.30am Arrive at our base at The Peaks. *(Please do not arrive earlier so as to allow us to prepare for the trek)*
After introduction to your horse and equipment we have a safety brief, then saddle up and ride over the Kanuku Saddle down to the Hurunui River for lunch.
After lunch we ride along the banks of the Hurunui River to a woolshed at the Hurunui Gorge.
Leave horses here for the night and transfer to Seven Hills Homestead.
Approx 5 ½ hours riding

Day 2: Transfer back to Gorge and ride up through the spectacular Hurunui Gorge to Lake Taylor Station via bush track through Boulder Gully.
Base ourselves at Lake Taylor Station for the next few days and ride out daily. We dine with the owners of Lake Taylor Station in their home and spend the night in their refurbished shearers quarters.
Approx 6 ½ hours riding

Day 3: Today is a wonderful ride that takes us deep into the mountains, not far from the Main Divide of the Southern Alps. We set off early and ride over Munro Saddle to Lake Mason for lunch. We carry on further to Lake Sumner and return via the smaller lakes of Loch Katrine and Lake Shepherd.
Approx 8 hours riding

Day 4: After enjoying a cooked breakfast we leave Lake Taylor Station, riding up Starvation Gully and out onto the Oronoko Range. We drop down into the South branch at its juncture with the Hurunui's North Branch where we stop for lunch at a favored swimming hole.
After crossing the South Branch we ride down through the Hurunui's scenic gorge, past the Seaward River to the Seven Hills woolshed where we leave our horses and meet the vehicle that will carry you to the Seven Hills Homestead for the night.
Approx. 6 1/2 hours riding

Day 5: Leaving Seven Hills behind we ride along the banks of the Hurunui River, gentle after its wild ride through Maori Gully. Riding on we pass the impressive Hooligan Range with Mt. Mizar, Ben Cliberick, Phyllis Fell and Mount Catherine on the opposite side of the river.
We lunch below Mt. Self beside the Hurunui, after which we head across country again, up and over the Kanuku Saddle (approx.770metres.) with it's panoramic views of the Amuri Basin Then it is down to our base where we unsaddle, wash the horses down and then have a debrief over afternoon tea.
The trek concludes at approximately 4.00pm
Approx. 4 ½ hrs riding.

N.B. As is the tradition in the New Zealand high country we do walk and lead our horses down steep hills so it is essential that you wear good trekking / hiking type boots and have a reasonable standard of fitness.

Packhorses are not used on this ride; your gear will be transported to your accommodation by vehicle.

Due to the limited accommodation provided by the station owners, singles booking may be required to share a bedroom.

Pace = varied

Average hours riding per day = 5

Note: This ride is supported by 4 wheel Drive vehicle, not packhorses, so the weight limit for gear is 12kg

Routes described can vary due to seasons and weather conditions

TRANSFERS

Transfers are not included in the cost of this ride and we suggest that if you have no vehicle you arrange to stay locally the night before the ride departs.